THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

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CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1867.

SENATE.

The report of the Conference Committee on the bill fixing the rights of volunteers in the United States army was agreed to. The bill as passed continues the term of service of regular army officers from the time they entered the voyageur service.

Mr. SUMNER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported adversely on the resolution to protect the rights of American citizens in Mexico also, a resolution to protect the claims of American citizens in Mexico.

On motion of Mr. CONNESS, the Committee on Pensions were discharged from the further consideration of the bill to establish a postal telegraph system in the United States. The subject, he said, was very important one, and one worthy of more consideration than the Committee had been able to give to it at this session. He hoped it would be taken up at some future session and favorably acted on. The Post Route bill passed.

The Tariff bill was taken up. Mr. SHERMAN said he had nothing last night which was not in the bill before the Senate was the Bingham bill which passed the House last session, and increased duty on wool, cattle, &c. The bill passed by 31 against 12.

[The bill as passed by the Senate will be found in another column of this morning's paper.]

Mr. FOLAND presented the report of the Conference Committee on the Army Appropriation bill, which was concurred in, 24 against 20.

Mr. SHERMAN, from the Conference Committee, made a report on the Compound Interest Note Bill, which was adopted. The bill as agreed on contains only one section, providing for the redemption of compound interest notes in three per cent. certificates, the same may be taken up at any time, but not to exceed fifty millions.

The President's veto message arrived with the veto of the Tenure of Office Bill, which was read, as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

I have carefully examined a bill to regulate the tenure of certain civil officers. The material portion of the bill is contained in the first section, and is to the effect following, namely: That any person holding any civil office to which he has been appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and every person who shall hereafter be appointed to any such office, shall be entitled to hold such office until a successor shall have been in like manner appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, and duly qualified and that the Secretary of State, of the Treasury, of War, of the Navy, and of the Interior, the Postmaster-General, and the Attorney-General, shall hold their offices for and during the term of the President by whom they may have been nominated, and for one month thereafter, subject to removal by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The provisions are qualified by a reservation in the fourth section, that nothing contained in the bill shall be construed to extend the term of any office the duration of which is limited by law. In effect the bill provides that the President shall not be deprived from their places any of the civil officers whose terms of service are not limited by the act to the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States. The bill in this respect considers, in my judgment, with the Constitution and laws.

The question, as Congress is well aware, is by no means a new one. The power of removal from office constitutionally vested in the President of the United States, is a prerogative of the executive not to be directly decided by judicial authority and judicial decisions are not to be anticipated. It has been practiced upon by the legislative and executive departments of the government from the first organization of the House of Representatives so early as the 19th of June, 1789, on the bill for establishing the first executive department, the department of foreign affairs. The first clause of the bill, after recapitulating the functions of the officer and his duties, proceeds, in the words: "to be removable from office by the President," and in the first amendment proposed to strike out these words, and the motion, after debate, was negatived by a vote of 20 to 18. It was insisted that the President could not constitutionally exercise the power of removal without the consent of the Senate; that the Federalists so interpreted the Constitution who argued for the adoption of the several states; that the Constitution had nowhere given the President the power of removal, either expressly or by implication, but that the Constitution had sufficiently provided for removal from office by impeachment only, a remedy sufficiently limited, while the power of removal by the arguments given, from the danger of the abuse of executive power, from the supposed tendency of the exposure of public officers to capricious removal, from the alleged injustice and partisanship of subjecting incumbents to degrade their official stations, without sufficient consideration, from a supposed want of responsibility on the part of the President, and from other arguments of inconvenience, against which the President might incline to abuse the power.

On the other hand, an exclusive power of removal by the President was defended as a just inference from the text of the constitution. It was maintained that there are certain officers who ought to be entirely free to be relieved from office without being guilty of treason, bribery or malfeasance, and that the nature of things demands that it should be supported. It was said that if a man becomes insane by the visitation of God and is likely to continue so, the affairs of the Government to be prevented from wasting during the civil suppose that the power of removing the lunatic he must be judged to have had at the time of the appointment, and that not to be corrected. Suppose he acquires vicious habits, and incredible insolence, or loses a portion of the duties of his office, which shall work mischief to the public welfare, is there no way to remove him except by the dangerous process of impeachment? Suppose he becomes odious and unpopular by reason of the unpopular measures he pursues, and while nine tenths of the people loathe his very presence, he still has a right to hold his office during the term for which he was appointed, and can only be removed by the slow process of impeachment? The nature of things, it was said, demands that the power of removal was vested in the President alone, and the legislative history of the Constitution, as far as it goes, is believed to favor that construction. It was maintained that the executive power vested in the President alone, and that the legislative construction of the Constitution, for the organization of the Department of State, of the War and Treasury, in the year 1789, provision was made for the appointment of subordinate officers by the head of the department who should have charge of the record books and papers, and that the office when the head of the departments should be removable from office by the President of the United States. When the Navy Department was established in the year 1798 provision was made for the charge and custody of the books, records and papers of the department in case of vacancy in the office of Secretary or other head of the department, it was said by the removal of the President, as it is done with respect to the heads of the other departments, yet there can be no doubt that he holds his office with the same tenure as the other Secretary, and is removable by the President. The power of removal has also been probably from its having become the settled and well understood construction of the Constitution. The power of removal was vested in the Postmaster-General by the act of 1835, but the appointment of the officers is by the President and Senate. (Bib Peters, page 128.)

Our most distinguished and accepted counsel upon the Constitution concur in the interpretation that carry given by Congress, and thus sanctioned by the Supreme Court. After a careful analysis of the Congressional debate to which I have referred, Mr. Justice Story comes to this conclusion.

After a most animated discussion, the vote finally taken in the House of Representatives was affirmative of the power of removal in the President alone, but out any cooperation of the Senate, by the vote of 34 members against 20.

In the Senate the clause in the bill affirming the power was carried by the casting vote of the Vice President. That the final decision of the question so made was greatly influenced by the exalted character of the President then in office, was asserted at the time, and has always been believed, yet the doctrine was opposed as well as supported by the highest intelligence and patriotism of the country. The public have acquiesced in this decision of the constitution, perhaps, the most extraordinary case in the history of the Government, of so great a departure by implication on the Executive by the large majority of Congress, which has not been followed by any of those occasions, the commentators add, nor is this general acquiescence and silence without a satisfactory explanation.

Chancellor Kent remarks on the subject as follows: In the first session of the first Congress, a clause was made a question whether the power of removal in case of officers appointed by the President and Senate, no where but in the body which appointed, and of course whether the consent of the Senate was or was not required to remove. This was fully discussed and given to the construction while it was pending, for ratification before the Constitutional authority of the general act, but the construction which was given to the constitution while it was pending, for great constitution and discussion was adherent, and has ever since been acted upon in establishing the Treasury Department are, "And whenever the same shall be removed from office by the President of the United States, or in any other manner, or by reason of inability or otherwise, shall act." This amounted to a legislative construction of the constitution, and it has ever since been acquiesced in and acted upon as a full and conclusive rule in case. It applies equally to every other officer of the Government appointed by the President whose term of duration is not specially defined. The argument in favor of the power of removal in the President alone in the executive departments ought to be held as that in the case of officers, because he is invested generally with the head of the executive authority, and the participation in that authority of the Senate was an exception to the general principle, and ought to be taken strictly. The President is the great responsible officer for the faithful execution of the law, and the power of removal was incident to that duty, and ought often to be indispensable to fulfill it.

This has the important question presented by this bill been settled in the language of the late Daniel Webster, while in the Senate from it, admitted practice of it by constructions, and the settled usage of the Government for the first seventy years?

The events of the last war furnish a practical confirmation, as it has hitherto been maintained in many of its parts, of the wisdom of the rule in question. When the war broke out, rebellion, and the whole country was filled with traitors and sympathizers were found in every department of the Government of the United States, in the service as in the land and naval military service. They were found in the Senate and House of Representatives, in the Federal Executive Departments, in the Judiciary, in the Executive Departments in the Territories, in the military and naval service, and in the diplomatic agents for conducting Indian affairs. As upon probable suspicion the President was compelled to remove as far as they could be found to hold their office under Executive authority, and thereby to paralyze the hostile machinations of traitors, to complaints against that power [illegible] and the power was exercised in many quarter. I sincerely trust and believe that no such power will ever be exercised by any President, however, that instance fully and whatever occasion seldom and rare as effort to hinder or defeat the legislation of the constitutional Government, either by preventing the collection of revenue or disturbing the public peace, or separating the States, or betraying the country to a foreign enemy, the power of removal from office by the Executive will be found indispensable. Under these circumstances, as a depository of the Executive authority of the nation, I do not feel at liberty to unite with Congress in severing it by giving my approval to the bill.

At the early day when this question was settled, and indeed at the several periods when it has been subsequently been agitated, the success of the Constitution of the United States as now and precious experiment of free representative government was held in doubtful in other countries, and was even the subject of patriotic apprehension among the American people themselves; a trial of nearly eighty years through the vicissitudes of foreign conflicts and of civil war is confidently regarded as having extinguished all such doubts and apprehensions for the future. During eighty years the people of the United States have enjoyed the measure of security, peace, prosperity and happiness never surpassed by any nation. It cannot be doubted that the triumphant success of the Constitution is due to the wonderful wisdom with which the functions of the Government are distributed between the principal departments, the legislative, the executive and the judicial, and upon which the system has confined itself or been confined by the general consent of the nation within the limits of proper sphere, while a just, proper and watchful balance of executive power constantly prevails. A violation of this balance, a practical conflict which it ought ever to prevail, yet it is apparent that in an efficient Executive, capable, in the language of the fourth press the laws of the President, to execute them faithfully, and within the sphere of Executive action of preserving, protecting and defending the constitution of the United States, is an indispensable security for tranquility at home, and peace, honor and safety abroad.

Governments have been erected in many countries upon our models. If one or many of them have thus far failed in fully securing to their people the benefits which we have taken it for granted, it may be confidently asserted that their misfortune has resulted from their unfortunate failure to maintain the integrity of each of the three great departments while preserving harmony among them all. Having at an early period accepted the Constitution in regard to the Executive office in the sense in which it was supposed to be by the framers, and which is manifested by the constitution while it was pending, for ratification before the people, the authority of the general act, but the construction which was given to the constitution while it was pending, for great constitution and discussion was adherent, and has ever since been acted upon in establishing the Treasury Department are, "And whenever the same shall be removed from office by the President of the United States, or in any other manner, or by reason of inability or otherwise, shall act." This amounted to a legislative construction of the constitution, and it has ever since been acquiesced in and acted upon as a full and conclusive rule in case. It applies equally to every other officer of the Government appointed by the President whose term of duration is not specially defined. The argument in favor of the power of removal in the President alone in the executive departments ought to be held as that in the case of officers, because he is invested generally with the head of the executive authority, and the participation in that authority of the Senate was an exception to the general principle, and ought to be taken strictly. The President is the great responsible officer for the faithful execution of the law, and the power of removal was incident to that duty, and ought often to be indispensable to fulfill it.

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tion so chosen; third, the insertion into the State Constitution of a provision which will secure the right of voting at all elections to the negro and such white men as may not be disfranchised for rebellion or felony; fourth, the submission of the Constitution for ratification to negroes and white men not disfranchised, and its actual ratification by the vote; fifth, the admission of other States under the Constitution for examination and actual approval of it by that body; sixth, the adoption of a certain amendment to the Federal Constitution by a vote of the Legislature elected under the new constitution, namely, the adoption of said amendment by a sufficient number of the other States to make it a part of the Constitution of the United States. All these conditions must be fulfilled before the people of these States can be relieved from the condition of military subjugation in which they are fulfilled, then the pains and penalties of the bill are to cease, no matter whether the place or order or not, without reference to the security of life and property.

The excuse given for the bill in preamble is admitted by the bill itself not to be real. The military rule which it establishes is plainly to be used, not for any purpose of order and for the prevention of crime, but for the purpose of coercing the people into the adoption of principles and measures to which it is known they are opposed, and upon which they have an undeniable right to exercise their own judgment. I cannot recognize such objects as these, nor is, in his whole scope and object, without precedent and without authority, in palpable conflict with the plainest provisions of the constitution, and utterly destructive of the great principles of liberty and humanity for which our ancestors on both sides of the Atlantic shed so much blood and expended so much treasure.

The ten States named in the bill are divided into five districts. For each district there is assigned to the command of a brigadier-general is to be appointed for rule over the district. He is to be supported with efficient military force to enable him to perform his duties; and that authority, as defined by the third section of the bill, is to protect all persons in their rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished, all disturbers of the public peace as criminals.

The power thus given to the commanding officer over all people of the State is that of an absolute monarch; his mere will is to take the place of all law. The laws of the States in force are not applicable to the subject placed under his control, and that is confessedly disclosed by the clause which declares all inconsistent with the authority to be null and void. He alone is permitted to determine what are the rights of person and property. He may punish them in such way as in his discretion may seem proper; it places within his power to disqualify any officer or voter in his district he may distribute, without let or hindrance, all the functions of civil government. He may, if he have power to do so, remove from office the governor, legislature, judges and officers of the State, and fill the vacancies by the appointment of persons known to be friendly to the will of the military commander.

Finally, the constitution declares that the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless when in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it. This bill takes away martial law, which of itself suspends this great writ of liberty. Military rule is established over the people, the arrest, and gives to the prisoner only one privilege, that of trial before a military commission. They have no right to be released from prison, except the hope of favorable action of the officer who commands the military commission.

The United States are bound to guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government. Can it be pretended that this obligation is not paramount to the claim of any State or people? Can it be pretended that this obligation is not paramount to the claim of any State or people? Can it be pretended that this obligation is not paramount to the claim of any State or people?

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1867.

THE Fortieth Congress has been represented in the opposition papers, as infinitely more radical and terrible than the Thirty-ninth. We know not on what this allegation rests. We imagine that neither of them need be the occasion of any alarm or terror. The work to be done by this Congress, it will probably do. Like the last, it will, no doubt, pursue the course which it believes to be right, and as far as it shall carry forward the will of the loyal people of the country, none but the disloyal will have any ground to impugn or to fear its action.

THE Washington correspondent of the Columbus, Ohio, *Journal*, says: General BUTLER although unreservedly in favor of impeaching the President thinks the people "are too cowardly" to insist upon it. The correspondent thinks "coward" is a bad word to use in reference to some of the men who are not able to convince themselves of the necessity of impeachment. They have written the disproof of the charge with their own blood. We presume Gen. BUTLER does not use the term in this offensive sense.

WELL DONE.

During the last few days of its existence the Thirty-Ninth Congress did much to redeem itself from the blame it had incurred for tardiness in the dispatch of important public business. If we omit the loss of the Tariff Bill, it probably came as near to completing its business as its predecessors in general. It fairly embodied the popular will in a measure for reconstructing the insurgent States; it gave the country a uniform Bankrupt Law; threw proper guards around the President relative to the tenure of office; made important and beneficial changes in the Tax Law; bestowed careful attention upon the subject of improving Harbors and Rivers; enacted an important Tariff Law relating to the great Wool interest of the country; abstained rigidly from experimental schemes of finance, and from unwise measures in general—for which latter it is especially deserving of thanks. On a careful examination of the acts of the Thirty-Ninth Congress, one will find far more to approve and be thankful for than to deplore. That it suffered most of the important business to drag till the last days of the session, is true, but that mainly the business was completed, is equally true—and of the best of its predecessors little more was ever said.

THE LAST ONE.

We do not vouch for the truth of the story about XERXES, and his tears. It was natural enough that he should think about the vast and splendid army being all swept away by the sceptre of death within a hundred years. The story has been told often enough to be true, and it has excited, hundreds of times over, some fancy or emotion, similar to that which invented it, if it be not true. As XERXES had the thought and shed the tears, they were creditable, in some sense, to the famous old Persian Potentate—more creditable than his thrashing the Hellespont, or his being thrashed by the three hundred at Thermopylæ.

A period of less than one hundred years has carried from the ranks of the living the entire army of the Revolution. There is something about the first and the last of a series of events that excites more emotion than the intervening ones. The first blood shed at Lexington; the first life taken in the war for the Union; the first battle had a thrilling interest from the fact of their being the first. So the death of the last of the *signers* of the Declaration of Independence was noticed with emotion and commented on, because it closed all earthly sight and fellowship of that glorious company of men. The death of the last man whose father had signed that Charter of Liberty, was observed as the cutting of another, but feebler, connection of the present with the Declaration.

But the farewell to earth of the last of its *indorsers* cannot but excite thought and emotion in the breast of every *American*. Aged SAMUEL MCDOWNING was the last man who, like ÆNEAS of the siege and overthrow of Troy, could speak from personal experience of the marches, battles, hardships, and victories of the Revolutionary war. On the anniversary of the birth of the great Leader, the old soldier was committed to the tomb, at the great age of over one hundred and six years. Having, after fighting under WASHINGTON till liberty was achieved, voted for him as the first President of the United States, and seen him administer the Government through two terms, he survived the father of his country for a period of no less than sixty-six years, and died in honor—the last of a noble and glorious race of men.

GEN. GRANT AND THE COUNTRY.

The interest felt in the views of General GRANT on public questions, indicates the confidence felt in him, and the weight his opinions have with the people at large and public men. Probably hardly another "outsider" has been more frequently consulted in regard to great measures; and it is not a little remarkable that as a general thing—especially on difficult points—the action of Congress has coincided with his views. As to the Presidential veto of the Reconstruction Bill, he labored to prevent it. While he did not, as was reported, go to the President directly, he expressed himself decidedly to two members of the Cabinet—Mr. MCCULLOCH and Mr. STANTON—to whom he frankly declared that it would be far better for the North and the country at large, if the President would sign the bill. General GRANT is outspoken on the "situation," and as to his views in general, a correspondent writes as follows:

He doesn't put himself forward as a politician. I don't know that he declares himself in sympathy with the Republican party. But he says that the present condition of things is very harmful, and ought not to continue any longer than necessary. Business will not be healthy, nothing can prosper, so long as reconstruction is delayed. Congress, he adds, has the right to do the duties on which the Southern votes shall come back. If any one denies that, he asks him to see that Congress at least insures their right and enforces it, and will continue to enforce it, and it does no good to quarrel on that point. Congress doesn't go back with its eyes shut in terms of restoration are easier now than they were a year ago, and they will be still easier a year hence as they are now? he asks. To Southern Unionists he asks no favor in this way. So far as I hear he doesn't argue whether the Republican party is right or wrong, but contents himself with calling attention to certain facts, and stating certain common sense conclusions. He said to Governor ORR that the South was making a great mistake in trusting to the Democratic party of the North; bringing up, in this connection, the fact that the Democratic members always played into the hands of Mr. STEVENS and his friends on those reconstruction questions. Your people ought to understand, he continued, that their fate is in the hands of the Republican party; the Democratic party cannot, it may possibly, do anything for you. That point was fully decided in the elections last fall, and the sooner the Southern people make peace with the Republican the better. As I said before, I don't hear that the General says much about politics, though he speaks freely. In this strain, on the political situation.

Postmaster at Pittsburgh.

James H. McClelland, for forty years a resident of this city, and a well-known carpenter, has been appointed and confirmed Postmaster at Pittsburgh. Mr. McClelland was one of the half dozen original members of the Liberty party in this city, twenty-five years ago, and has been consistent in his views regarding slavery ever since. He is an upright citizen, correct in all his dealings, and has voted with the Republican party ever since its organization, but has not taken any active part in politics for many years. He is a brother-in-law of the late Col. Samuel W. Black, and his appointment, unsought by him, was obtained through the influence of General Moorhead.

The Acting Vice President.

It is remarked by a cotemporary that the selection of Senator Wade to be president of the Senate, was made in view of a contingency, for the first time in the history of the Government—that growing out of the possibility of his becoming President by virtue of his office. He is the forty-second Senator elected President of the Senate *pro tempore*, and he will succeed John Langdon, Richard Henry Lee, Theodore Sedgwick, William H. Crawford, James Barbour, Nathaniel Macon, William R. King, Solomon Foot and other prominent men. Mr. Wade was born in Massachusetts in the first year of the present century, and went, when twenty-one, to Ohio, where he educated himself as a lawyer.

The latest announcement is that some adventurous members of English swimming clubs have determined to swim across the Channel on their way to the Exhibition. They are to be accompanied by umpires in boats, and are to be furnished with planks to rest upon at stated intervals. This may be well for variety, but most people would prefer to go in the usual way.

The Wool Tariff.

NORRISTOWN, Allegheny county, Pa., March 4, 1867.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

It is very gratifying to the wool growers of Pennsylvania to observe that your paper furnished, at the expense of a special telegram, the Bingham tariff bill on wool and woolens, as it passed the Senate, and now a law, it having received the approval of the President.

GLENN & BROTHER.

Pennsylvania Appointments.

The United States Senate, in Executive Session Saturday night, confirmed the following appointments to offices in Pennsylvania: Thos. A. Rowley, United States Marshal Western District; Fred. E. Voltz, Collector of Internal Revenue, Twenty-second District; E. F. Burmeister, Pension Agent at Philadelphia. To be Postmasters: R. L. Taylor, Indiana; John B. Purcell, Bloomfield; Silas Hannan, Schuylkill Haven; J. A. Sedgwick, Butler; A. M. Keck, Greenville; R. Cram, Dennison; Hiram N. Elder, Jamaica; David Dean, Whitehaven; Jonathan W. Bastian, Sunbury; Davis H. Messemer, Pottstown; George F. Harvey, Doylestown; L. H. Williams, Sharon. A. B. Longacre, Collector of Internal Revenue, Sixth District. Charles W. Wingard, Paymaster United States Army; J. W. Frazier, Assessor of Internal Revenue, First District. C. S. Eyster, Esq., of Pennsylvania, was confirmed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Colorado.

The following Pennsylvania appointments were rejected: Postmasters—D. Pomeroy, Carbondale; C. B. Davis, Milton; G. Ashman Miller, Huntingdon; A. Davis, Hyde Park; E. O'Brien, New Castle; W. H. Pier, Scranton; Peter Purcell, Wilkesbarre. Assessor of Internal Revenue—A. J. Garretson, Twelfth District of Pennsylvania. Collector of Internal Revenue—A. E. Mullen, Seventeenth District of Pennsylvania. Surveyor of Customs—Wm. Harbeson, Philadelphia.

The following nominations were sent into the Senate Sunday night: Postmasters—Mrs. Harriet L. McGuigan, Tamaqua, Pa.; Ehanan Smith, Tonawanda, Pa.; James McKean, Norristown, Pa.; Clinton Cullom, Meadville, Pa.; Wm. Harbeson, Philadelphia.

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Where was Washington Born?

The London correspondent of *The Round Table* has received from a Mr. George Harvey, a bookseller doing business in the great metropolis, a circular form requesting him to insert his name as a subscriber to a new work entitled, "Was Washington Born in England?" These eccentricities of literature are becoming a nuisance. What with pamphlets proving Napoleon Bonaparte to have been a myth, and lusky volumes to prove that Shakespeare never wrote his own plays, and extracts from scandalous old books going to show that Pocahontas was a disreputable young squaw, who turned somersaults in public places with a pack of dirty boys, we are beginning to lose all faith in history and tradition. Better sum up the whole current of objectless doubt in one exhaustive essay and call it, "Did Anything Ever Happen?" "Has Anybody Ever Been?"

Pennsylvania Railroad Directors.

The annual election for Directors of the Penn-sylvania Railroad Company was held at the office of the company in Philadelphia, on Monday, when the following gentlemen were elected: J. Edgar Thomson, Josiah Bacon, John Hulme, Wistar Morris, Alexander Simick, (Pittsburgh), Samuel M. Felton, Joseph R. Lyndall, Edward C. Knight, Washington Butcher, John M. Kennedy.

A BREAK IN THE GIRDLE.—The construction of the Overland Telegraph line, which, by way of British Columbia and Asiatic Russia, was to have completed the electric girdle of communication round the earth, has been suspended for various reasons. It is in working order to a point nearly eight hundred miles north of Westminster in British Columbia, but there unforeseen obstacles presented themselves and further surveys had to be made. There is a comparatively unexplored region of three hundred miles, through which it would have to be carried, and the topographical peculiarities of this region will have to be ascertained before the work can be resumed. The Cleveland *Herald*, however, which has special opportunities of obtaining information on the subject, says that it is known a route exists through this tract travelled by the Russian fur traders. That journal, nevertheless, doubts whether the line could successfully compete on equal terms with the present cable rates, and seems to intimate, upon authority, that the project will be, at any rate, temporarily abandoned. But it thinks that, with the completion of the Pacific Railroad, the China trade will become of great importance to the United States, and will warrant a renewal of the enterprise. In view of this fact the money spent and the work done are not considered lost.

A MAGNANIMOUS JEW.—It might be thought that the Mortara outrage, of comparatively recent occurrence—to say nothing of an experience of centuries of persecution—would scarcely be the kind of recollections to create any sort of sympathy for the Papacy in the heart of a Jew. Yet there is one, at least, whose magnanimity seems to have got the better of the animosities of race and religion. He is a citizen of Modena, and he lately gave liberally to what is called the Peter's pence fund, for the following reason, as expressed by himself: "I give this," he says, "because I am firmly persuaded that it becomes the dignity and independence of the Bishop of Rome to be the subject of no King, and that it is for the interest of Catholics, heretics and Hebrews that the head of a religion, with one hundred and eighty millions adherents, should also be a King. I give this, therefore, to maintain the temporal power of the Pope, and regret that my circumstances do not enable me to give more." The Jews never could separate the ideas of temporal and spiritual power. Their Messiah was expected to come clothed in power and majesty.

PRESIDENTIAL CLIQUES.—An enterprising Washington correspondent of a Western paper has heard of three terrible cliques or conspiracies by whom wires are being laid for controlling the operation of the next Presidential campaign. There is, he says, the Chase ring—managers, Jay Cooke & Co., John Sherman & Co., and Little, Sprague & Co.; the Wade ring—managers, "all the hot gospellers of the red-pepper and brimstone school;" and the Colfax ring—managers, "the poets, writers, lecturers, and dilletant statesmen." He irreverently intimates that the first has the money, the second the brains, and the third the impudence of the Washington politicalagglomerate. Furthermore, he is of opinion that all of them are wilfully shutting their ears to the tramp of the coming people and the Grand Army of the Republic, with Old Pap Thomas at their head. Singularly enough, for a rural retailer of gossip from the capital he does not say anything about *noses* or *rows*.

PENNSYLVANIA APPOINTMENTS.—The following Pennsylvania appointments were confirmed by the senate Sunday night and Monday morning: J. Lee Englehart, Assessor of Internal Revenue, Seventh district. Postmasters—Mrs. Harriet L. McGuigan, Tamaqua; James H. McClelland, Pittsburgh; Clinton Cullom, Meadville. Brigadier Generals by brevet—Jacob H. Campbell, late Colonel Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Wm. A. Leech, late Lieutenant Colonel Nineteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers; S. M. Bowman, late Lieutenant Colonel Pennsylvania Reserve Corps. Appraiser of Merchandise—Charles M. Harley, of Philadelphia. The following nominations were rejected: Postmasters—James McKean, Mercer; Ehanan Smith, Towanda; Frank McLaughlin, Philadelphia; Walter Barber, Susquehanna Depot.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD DIRECTORS.—In the list of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, published yesterday, the name of John Hulme occurred in place of John Rice, the former having been defeated by the latter. The average vote received by the successful Directors was 79,000, Mr. John Rice receiving 56,308 and John Hulme 22,922. The *Bulletin* attributes Mr. Hulme's defeat solely to the position taken by that gentleman as the candidate of the Copperhead party for Congress in the Second District at the last fall election. Hon. Thos. A. Scott and Herman J. Loudoun, Esq., will continue their services as Vice Presidents of the Company, and the management will in no respect be changed.

COLLECTOR AT PHILADELPHIA.—Mr. E. Reed Myer, the principle Deputy Collector, has been directed to perform the duties of Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, until further orders. Mr. Myer was Surveyor of the Port during the entire term of the collectorship of Col. W. B. Thomas, and he takes with him into his new position a fund of ripe experience which eminently fits him for the important post he has been unexpectedly called upon to fill.

OHIO APPOINTMENTS REJECTED.—The following appointments of Postmasters in Ohio were rejected by the senate on Sunday and Monday: Isaac C. Bryant, Bucyrus; William M. Mallord, Mount Vernon; Daniel Lupston, Salem; Matthew C. Hale, Sidney; Samuel McKee, Troy, Jefferson Palem, Warren; Harlin H. Sage, Circleville; J. C. R. Hubbell, Dayton; James Hoyle, Xenia.

THE AMENDED REVENUE LAW.

Complete Revision of the Internal Revenue Act---The Cotton Tax Reduced---The Income Deduction to be $1,000 Instead of $600, and the Tax Five per Cent.---Pay of Assistant Assessors Increased---The Whisky Sections Remodelled.

We have given heretofore some of the chief features of the amendments made to the Internal Revenue Act, but as the alterations affect the pockets of almost everybody, we present a complete copy of the bill of amendments as adopted and signed:

INTERNAL REVENUE.

AN ACT to amend existing laws relating to Internal Revenue and for other purposes.

ASSESSMENT TO BE MADE IN MARCH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all acts in relation to the assessment, special tax, and other annual taxes now existing, or required to be performed in the months of May, shall hereafter be performed in the corresponding days in the month of March in each year; all acts required to be performed in the month of June, in relation to the collection, return and payment of said taxes, shall be performed in the corresponding days in the month of April of each year; *Provided*, That on and after the first day of January, 1868, a tax of 5 cents per pound only shall be levied, collected and paid on any cotton produced within the United States.

APOTHECARIES, BUTCHERS, CONFECTIONERS, ETC.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That apothecaries, butchers, confectioners and plumbers and gas-fitters, whose annual gross sales do not exceed $25,000, shall pay, in addition to the special tax now required by law, one dollar for every thousand dollars in excess of said twenty-five thousand dollars of such gross sales, and the excess shall be assessed and paid in the manner provided in the case of other dealers in like.

OF SUITS UNDER THE REVENUE LAW.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That in all suits or proceedings prosecuted by any officer of the United States, to which the United States is a party, and in which the United States is finally adjudged to recover any duty or penalty under the internal revenue laws, wherein a District Attorney is employed, it shall be the duty of said District Attorney, if requested by the solicitor of the Treasury, immediately to enter a motion or entry for an attachment against the property of the defendant, which shall be issued by the clerk of said court, and placed in the hands of the marshal, commanding him to attach so much of the property of such defendant, not exempt by law from attachment, as will be sufficient to satisfy the judgment, interest and costs, and to keep the same safely, so that it may be liable to be sold on execution upon such judgment; and the said marshal shall proceed thereon in the same manner as is provided by law in cases of attachment by process issued out of said court; and the said District Attorney shall be entitled to receive, in addition to his salary, such fees as may be allowed by the court, not exceeding twenty-five dollars in each case, to be taxed in the bill of costs.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, compromise any case arising under the internal revenue laws, where a suit or proceeding has been commenced in favor of the United States, in pursuance of the recommendation of the officer charged with the duty of prosecuting or defending the same, on the part of the United States, in pursuance of the provisions of section three hundred and seventy-two of the Revised Statutes, and may prescribe the terms upon which such compromise may be made, and may, in his discretion, refer the same to the Solicitor of the Treasury or other officer of the Government, for the purpose of negotiating such compromise, subject to the approval of the Commissioner and Secretary as aforesaid.

INTERNAL REVENUE TO BE PAID INTO THE TREASURY.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That all moneys received from internal revenue taxes shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States, and shall be applied to the payment of the public debt, and for other purposes, as now provided by law.

ASSESSMENT OF TAXES.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, may cause to be assessed, collected and paid, any tax which has been imposed by law, and which has been omitted to be assessed, collected and paid, at any time within two years after the same became due.

PENALTIES FOR AVOIDING STAMPS.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That if the manufacturer of any article upon which a tax is required to be paid by stamp or stamps shall have sold or removed such article for consumption or use before the affixing of the proper stamp, in addition to the penalties now provided by law for such offence, he shall pay the duty of the proper assessor or assistant assessor, to be collected by distraint, in the manner provided by law in other cases of delinquency; and the payment of such tax shall not relieve the manufacturer from the penalties incurred by reason of his neglect or fraud; and it shall be the duty of the assessor, and he is hereby authorized, to enter, examine and search any premises or place where he has reason to believe that any article is manufactured or kept upon which a tax is imposed by law, and to seize and secure any such article upon which the tax has not been paid, and to arrest any person who has the same in his possession, and to carry the same before the collector, and the collector shall proceed against the same, and against the person in possession thereof, in the manner provided by law in cases of property distrained for taxes.

DEPUTY OR ASSISTANT ASSESSORS.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, whenever he shall deem it expedient, to designate and detail any assistant assessor in any part of such collection district to make assessments in any part of such collection district adjoining that in which he is specially employed, and to assign to any assistant assessor such additional districts, and to change the districts of assistant assessors of such collection district to report to the Assistant Assessor of the district in which the persons whom they may come to their knowledge possess any assessments to be made: *Provided*, That no Assistant Assessor shall be required to perform duties not embraced within one county, it may be lawful for such Assistant Assessor to perform duties in any contiguous county within such county upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Commissioner required: *Provided further*, That such Assistant Assessor shall reside within the limits of the district in which such taxes are payable.

PAYMENT OF DEPUTIES.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall have power to pay such sums, not exceeding in the aggregate the amount appropriated therefor, as may be for the public interest, to any person or persons employed in detecting, prosecuting and bringing to trial and punishment persons guilty of violating the internal revenue laws, or any of them, or conniving at the violation thereof, in addition to any other compensation provided for by law: *Provided*, That the whole amount hereafty appropriated $50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby made money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

PENALTIES REDUCED.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That hereafter for any failure to pay any Internal Revenue Tax at the time prescribed by law, where the law imposes a penalty for such failure, creates a liability to pay a penalty of ten per centum additional upon the amount of tax assessed and remaining unpaid, and imposes a penalty of interest to pay said tax, instead of ten per centum as above provided, shall pay a penalty of five per centum only, with interest at the rate of one per centum per month upon the amount of tax assessed and remaining unpaid, from the time for levying, collecting and paying said tax.

ASSISTANT ASSESSORS' PAY INCREASED.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, pay Assistant Assessors, as authorized by amended, be, and the same is hereby increased to four dollars per day.

That section twenty-two be amended by striking out after the words "actually employed" the words "not exceeding four dollars per day," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "at a rate not exceeding four dollars per day," and striking out the following words: "And Assistant Assessors may be employed at a compensation of fifteen dollars per month, when the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall certify that such employment is necessary, and the same shall be audited and allowed by the proper officers of the Treasury Department."

HOW TO ESTIMATE TAXABLE GAINS—DEDUCTIONS ALLOWED.

That section one hundred and seventeen be amended by striking out after the word "exceeding" the words "four per centum upon the sales, profits and income of any person, firm, company or corporation, carrying on the business of banker, upon bills, notes and other securities purchased within the year, and four per centum upon the profits and income of all persons, firms, companies or corporations, from all other property purchased within the year and sold for more than the cost thereof, and upon the profits and income derived from all property sold during the year," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "five per centum upon the amount, and the collector shall immediately proceed to collect the same, and shall pay the same into the Treasury, and report the name and residence of the person, firm, company or corporation liable for such tax, and the amount thereof, to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue; and in estimating the profits upon which said tax shall be assessed, no deduction shall be allowed for any sum or sums paid for internal taxes, or for losses sustained by fire, theft, or otherwise, or for any debts or claims, except such as shall have been actually paid during the year for which said tax is assessed, and such debts as shall have been ascertained to be worthless and charged off during the year for which said tax is assessed; nor shall any deduction be allowed for any sum or sums paid for rent, or for any expenditure, except for labor, fuel, gas, water, repairs, and such sums as may be paid for taxes, and for insurance against fire, and for losses by the elements of property connected with and necessary to the business, and the actual depreciation of the value of the same, not exceeding five per centum upon the amount thereof, and for losses of bad debts, and for losses of solvent debts, to the amount actually charged off within the year, and for losses by breakage of glass, crockery and queensware, and for losses by breakage of machinery

THE GENERAL BANKRUPT LAW.

Synopsis of the Leading Features.

The jurisdiction in bankruptcy cases is given by the act to the several District Courts of the United States, with the United States Circuit Court acting in a supervisory capacity as Courts of Equity. The Judges of the District Courts will be assisted in the performance of their duties imposed upon them by registers in bankruptcy, who are required to be counsellors of those courts, or of some of the Courts of Record of their several States. The power of the Registers is limited, and provision is made for reference of disputed questions to the District Court Judges, and for appeals from the District Courts to the Circuit Courts, and from the latter, in cases where the matter in dispute shall exceed two thousand dollars, to the Supreme Court of the United States.

There are two kinds of bankruptcy contemplated by the act; voluntary and involuntary. In the former any person residing within the jurisdiction of the United States, owing over three hundred dollars, and finding himself insolvent, may apply by petition to the judge of the district in which he has resided for the six months preceding the date of the petition, or for the longest period during such six months, and shall thereupon be declared a bankrupt. The creditors, having been properly notified by the court, meet together and appoint one or more assignees of the estate of the debtor; the choice to be made by the greater part in value and in number of the creditors who have proved their debts, or in case of failure to agree, then by the District Judge, or where there are no opposing creditors, by the Register. The whole affairs of the bankrupt pass into the hands of the assignees, who have full powers granted them necessary for the collection of all debts and the final adjustment and closing up of the estate. Stringent regulations are made for the proper deposit and safe keeping of all moneys received from the estate; and where delay is likely to occur from litigation in the final distribution of the assets the court is empowered to direct their temporary investment. The bankrupt is liable at all times to be called up for examination on oath upon all matters relating to the disposal or condition of his property or to his business transactions, and for good cause shown his wife may in like manner be compelled to attend as a witness in the case.

In the distribution of the bankrupt's estate dividends are to be paid as agreed upon by a majority in value of the creditors, from time to time, at three months' intervals, but the following claims are first to be paid in full: First, the fees, costs and charges allowed under the bankrupt act; second, all debts, taxes and assessments due to the United States; third, all State debts, taxes and assessments; wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to an amount not exceeding fifty dollars for labor performed within six months preceding the bankruptcy; fifth, all debts due to any persons who are or may be entitled to preference by laws of the United States. The voluntary bankrupt is entitled to his discharge provided no fraud is proved against him, at any time from sixty days to one year after adjudication of bankruptcy; but the proof or discovery of any fraud or concealment destroys all his right to discharge. No person who has once received his discharge is to be entitled again to become a voluntary bankrupt, unless his estate is sufficient to pay seventy per cent. on his debts, or unless three-fourths of his creditors assent in writing to his bankruptcy. Preferences and fraudulent conveyances are declared void by the act, and suitable provisions are made for the voluntary bankruptcy of partnerships and corporations.

The exemptions under the law are as follows: The necessary household and kitchen furniture, and such other articles and necessaries of such bankrupt as the assignee shall designate and set apart, having reference in the amount to the family, condition and circumstances of the bankrupt, but altogether not to exceed in value, in any case, the sum of $500; and also the wearing apparel of such bankrupt, and that of his wife and children, and the uniform, arms and equipments of any person who is or has been a soldier in the militia or in the service of the United States; and such other property as now is or hereafter shall be exempted from attachment or seizure or levy on execution by the laws of the United States, and such other property, not included in the foregoing exceptions, as is exempted from levy and sale upon execution or other process or order of court, by the laws of the State in which the bankrupt has his domicile at the time of the commencement of the proceedings in bankruptcy to an amount not exceeding that allowed by such State exemption laws in force in the year 1864.

Acts of involuntary bankruptcy under the law are classified as follows: Departure or absence from the State where debts are owed, with intent to defraud the creditors; concealment to avoid service of process for the recovery of debt; concealment of property to avoid seizure on legal process; assignments designed to delay, defraud or hinder creditors; arrest and detention for seven days, under execution for a debt exceeding one hundred dollars; assignment, gift, confession of judgment, or any other act by which preference is given to any creditor, endorser or surety; dishonoring commercial paper, or suspending and not resuming payment for fourteen days. The petition for an adjudication of bankruptcy in such cases may come from one or more creditors whose debts reach two hundred and fifty dollars, but the petition must be brought within six months after the act of bankruptcy has been committed. In involuntary bankruptcy the proceedings are made more stringent than in the other description of cases. The penalty for any fraud or concealment, direct or indirect, under the act, is imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not less than two years.

There are other details in the act, relating to the duties of the officers appointed and authorized under the law, the amount of fees, &c., which are interesting only as matter of detail.

THE TAX BILL.

Important Amendments as Adopted---Large Addition to the Free List---The Bill as Passed.

The Tax Bill fixes the tax on cotton at 2½ cents, to go into effect Sept. 1.

The Senate amendment to tax on manufactures exclusively of glass, three per centum *ad valorem*, is retained; the words "other than window glass" being inserted, with an amendment by the Conference Committee, as follows: "On leather of all descriptions, and goat, deer, calf, kid, sheep, horse, colt, and dog skins, tanned or partially tanned, curried, finished or in the rough, 2½ per centum *ad valorem*."

The Senate receded from its amendment relieving syrups and molasses from the two per cent., and reducing the rate upon sugar, so that item reads: "On refined sugars and on the products of sugar refineries, not including syrup or molasses, a tax of 2 per cent. *ad valorem*."

Section 19 is amended by adding the following: "And no suit for the purpose of restraining the assessment or collection of the tax, shall be maintained in any Court."

The Senate recedes from its amendment placing on the free list boots, shoes, shoe findings and strings, and gloves made of leather or skins.

The House provision, placing on the free list steam locomotives and marine engine boilers, log, sliding and shingle machines, is removed, but scythes are inserted in the free list. The Senate recedes from its amendment making wire cloth free. The rate on brandy made of grapes is increased from fifty cents to $1 per gallon. The Senate amendment provides for the repeal of all taxes on advertisements or receipts of toll roads. The Senate amendment is retained which provides that the tonnage duty now imposed by law on all ships, vessels, or steamers engaged in foreign or domestic commerce, shall be levied at once within one year, and paid by such ship, vessel or steamer. No further tonnage tax shall be collected within one year from the dates of such payment. The following proviso to section 34 is also retained:

Provided, That this act shall not be construed to affect any act done, right accrued, or penalty incurred under former acts, but every such right is hereby waived, and all suits and prosecutions for acts already done in violation of any former acts of Congress relating to the subjects embraced in this act may be commenced or proceeded with in like manner as if this act had not been passed. And all penal clauses and provisions in existing laws relating to the subjects embraced in this act shall be deemed applicable thereto.

The following articles are added to the present free list: Alcoholic and ethereal vegetable extracts when solid and used solely for medicinal purposes; ball rope salines and netting for seines; twine and lines of all kinds; rags; hair, hand, sheet and plate iron of all descriptions; and iron prepared for the manufacture of steel; provided that the exemption shall be confined exclusively to said articles, in the state and condition specified in the foregoing enumeration, and shall not be construed as exempting spikes, nails or other manufactures of iron, from the taxes now imposed by law; brush-blocks, canned and preserved meats, and shell fish; carbonate of lime used solely for disinfectants; carpet-bag and cuba frames; canned and preserved vegetables and fruits; casks, churns, barrels, wooden brushes and broom handles; tanks and kits made of wood, including cooperage of all kinds; bungs and plugs, pocket rules, nest boxes, made in whole or in part of wood or other material; wooden hames, plow-beams, split-bottom chairs, and turned material for the same, manufactured; and saddle-trees made of wood, and such parts thereof before made, on which a tax has not been paid; cast iron hollow-ware, tinned, enameled, japanned or galvanized; clock trimmings, namely, clock works, clock pillars, sash fastenings for clocks, winding keys, verges and pendulum rods; clothing or articles of dress not specially enumerated, made up by sewing, for the wear of men, women or children, from cloths or fabrics on which a duty has been paid; coffee mills, coffee grinders and roasters and apple-paring machines, copper bottoms suitable for use in domestic and culinary purposes, doors, sash, blinds, frames and sills, of whatever material, drain, gas and water pipes, inside of wood or cement, frames and handles for saws and back saws; files and gratings of all descriptions in a solid state; glue and cement made wholly or in part with glue in the liquid state; horse rakes, horse powers, tenders, hames, scythe-snaths, hay-forks, horse portables, grinding mills, horse-blankets made from cloth on which a tax or duty has been paid, licorice and licorice paste, magnesia; linen manufactures of jute, molasses, concentrated syrup or including syrup of molasses or sugar, cane juice and cistern bottoms, oil, naptha, benzine or gasoline marking more than seventy degrees Baume's hydrometer; palm leaf and straw, bleached, split, prepared or advanced by being braded or woven, but not made up into hats, bonnets or hoods; potash, manure, or reading forks, parts of all descriptions, including stone, earthen, brown and yellow earthen, and common or gray stoneware; pumps, garden engines and hydraulic rams, rock and road diggers and excavators, root beer and other small beer, salt, school-room seats and desks, blackboards and globes of all kinds, sieds, wheelbarrows and hand-carts, and fence made of wood; soap, common brown in bars, sold for less than seven cents per pound; saws for cotton gins when used by the maker in the manufacture of gins, soles and heel-taps made of india-rubber, shirt fronts or bosoms, wristbands or ruffs for shirts, except those made of paper, spiral springs used in the manufacture of furniture, stove polish or other manufacture exclusively of plumbago, back saws, stump machines, potato diggers, steel of all descriptions, whether made from muck, bar, bloom, slabs, drops or otherwise; sythes, straw or binders' boards, and binders' cloth; straw wrapping paper, tin ware, ultra marine blue, varnish, wagons, carts and drays for farming or freighting; washing mangles and wringing-machines, zinc wash-boards, spinning and flax wheels, hand reels and looms, wooden knobs and beehives.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Atlanta has eleven thousand whites and nine thousand negroes. There are also one hundred and fifty-six widows and two hundred and ninety-four orphans of Confederate soldiers residing there.

A clergyman was lately deploring before a deeply interested audience the alarming increase of intemperance, when he astonished his hearers by exclaiming: "A young woman in my neighborhood died very suddenly last Sabbath, while I was preaching the gospel a state of intoxication."

The raising of cattle in Illinois has grown to enormous proportions. This State furnishes New York with more live stock than all the other States combened. During 1866 the total number of cattle received at New York was 298,882.

No woman, during the Paris Exposition, is to be allowed to enter alone any of the supper houses which are open late at night in that city. This is said to be a concession to the anticipated prejudices of English and American visitors.

During February, the number of American vessels lost by wreck, fire, collision and other disasters at sea, was 60, their value being $3,352,500. Of these three were steamers, fifteen ships, two barks, eleven brigs, twenty-nine schooners and one steam tug.

The editor of the *Discussion* of Madrid, Spain, has just acen sentenced to death for articles which he had published. There must be a pleasant excitement about the journalistic profession in a country where an infelicitous turn of a paragraph, may lead to a still more infelicitous turn of the garotte.

Fortune-telling and tilting hoops operate differently. The former reveal what the lady will be in future, the latter reveal what she is at present. Not always, if we may credit what is said about one of the uses to which sawdust is put.

The Buffalo papers report that during 1866 the disasters on the Lakes and their tributary rivers numbered seven hundred and thirty-four, and involved the loss of one hundred and eleven lives, and a destruction of property to the amount of $1,647,328.

There have been several deaths in Paris lately from having flowers in bed chambers; the patients die of brain fever or paralysis. Probably, like the rose, "in aromatic pain."

The French Postoffice receives daily one thousand letters whose address is illegible; two clerks are constantly employed in deciphering these charades; about 250,000 letters annually defy all guesses.

The Oxford (Miss.) *Falcon* says: We are informed that in consequence of the high charges for board a number of the students at our University have formed messes and purchased provisions, and cook for themselves. The most of them have been soldiers, and doubtless understand the matter well.

The arrival of the great caravan from Bagdad is announced by letters from Damascus in Syria. It consists of two thousand five hundred camels, one-half of which were laden with tobacco, while the remainder carried the travelers. The brass bands of Bagdad do not perform—as these caravans are seen approaching the city—"The Camels are Coming."

In Great Britain it is calculated that a salmon represents a value equivalent to that of a good sized sheep, without imposing on any one the trouble of housing and feeding. The salmon referred to often weigh from sixty to eighty pounds each.

A number of colored men have been discharged by their Conservative employers in Georgetown for voting the Union ticket at the late election.

The Good Templars of Indiana, in convention at Indianapolis, have threatened to leave the Republican party if it don't pass a prohibitory liquor law. Their principles and party loyalty are not worth much, if they would desert both because they cannot get all they want in a matter which should be disconnected from politics.

Sixty Roman Catholic priests arrived in New Orleans last week, to open schools for the freedmen.

The Cincinnati City Council have taken favorable action on an ordinance providing for the issue of bonds for the purchase of the city gas works, whereupon Chicago sneers, and calls the project a costly luxury. We shouldn't wonder if it proved cheaper than paying private monopolies a hundred per cent. more than they are fairly entitled to.

At Augusta, Georgia, during last month, there were 2,360 whites drawing rations from the Freedmen's Bureau. Yes, and no doubt cursing the very hands that feed them.

Esta bebecda, he is drunk, is the most withering of rebukes that can be applied to a Brazilian; just as the Greenlander's *dernier resort* in cursing is to tell the bad man he is good for nothing and ought to eat dirt. We are afraid there would be a fearful amount of withering in Pittsburgh, if people here regarded the phrase with the same high-strung sensibility.

The molders arrested some days since, in Louisville, charged with the shooting and assault on Peter Malone and others of Bridgeford's work hands, were before the Police Court on Saturday morning. Most of them were held in heavy bonds to answer. It is expected that the Molders' Union will be indicted as a nuisance by the grand jury now in session.

At a late meeting of the French Academy of Sciences, the South American poison, called *curare*, or, in Indian, *woorali*, was the subject of discussion. It was stated that a dose administered by subcutaneous injection affects the eye-sight; the patient does not discover objects clearly; he reads with more difficulty, and passes his hands over his eyes as if to dispel a cloud; he complains of the heaviness of the upper eyelids, which indeed drop down so as to narrow the visual space considerably, whereby the face acquires a singlar expression. He does not exactly complain of headache, but a contraction in the region of the forehead, and especially between the eyebrows. The patient is also afflicted with double vision if he use both his eyes. We think we have heard symptoms of this precise description frequently spoken of as the results of administering another poison, called whisky, by injection from a tumbler down the throat.

During the year 1866, thirty-one lives were lost on steam, and eighty on sailing vessels, on the lakes.

Here is a sample of the frightfully demoralizing effects produced by Spiritualism: A Mr. Perry, in the Providence Spiritualist Convention, said: "As a Spiritualist I have yet to learn that we hold anything as sacred." A Mr. Wheeler said: As Spiritualists we have not acknowledged any such thing as moral obligations."

Twenty-five ladies have entered their names for the ensuing session at the Ladies' Medical College, London. If they prove as skillful in dissecting bodies as they no doubt are in dissecting the characters and little weaknesses of their female friends, they will become proficients in the art of surgery.

This is the latest practical assertion of Woman's Rights: It is reported from Washington that during last November a lady named Mrs. Frances Lord Bond, of New York, filed an application for a Consular appointment in the State Department. The President favorably indorsed it, and it is said her name will be sent in to the Senate.

A lady being asked to waltz, gave the following sensible and appropriate answer: "No, I thank you, sir, I have hugging enough at home."

A Nashville correspondent writes that at the recent Republican Convention in Tennessee, which renominated Governor Brownlow, a resolution was passed, inviting orators from the neighboring States to visit Tennessee during the pending canvass and discuss political questions. It was announced that Frederick Douglass himself would be protected in canvassing the State should he come. The announcement is reassuring, but it is doubtful whether Frederick will take the risk.

It is announced from Memphis that the *Commercial and Argus*, once one of the most flourishing journals in that city, has died for want of patronage. There are now left in Memphis the *Avalanche*, the *Appeal*, the *Public Ledger*, the *Bulletin*. Enough, goodness knows, of pestilent firebrands for a place of the size of Memphis. The *Post* is the only loyal journal of them all.

In the year 1866, 174 persons committed suicide at Vienna, and 99 made unsuccessful attempts. Of the whole number, 195 were men, 78 women, and 5 children.

In the Brazils the clergy are described as the lowest class of the community, not excepting the African slaves; and morals keep the level of those who are paid to fix the idols of worship. Tin Holy Ghosts at seventy-five cents a hundred are pathanthropically peddled among the pious prayers against the cholera, adorned with religious emblems, are sold at four cents a piece.

The trade in leeches, in Australia, is becoming an important business. Steamers go out from Melbourne to the region of swamps and lagoons, one hundred or two hundred miles away, and sometimes collect from 150,000 to 250,000 leeches on a single trip. What on earth, then, can they be used for? If all of them were employed in the practice of human phlebotomy, the entire race would soon be bled to death.

The *American Christian Review*, in regard to the new phrase "over-bishoped," says: "This phrase has been used with reference to Ireland, Italy, and a few other countries which have too many bishops. This expression sounds as oddly in America as Artemus Ward's suggestion that Brigham Young is "too much married."

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 6, 1867.

There was no perceptible improvement in the local money market to-day. The offerings at the banks are much beyond their line of discounts and a great deal of first-class paper cannot be reached. Private capitalists are very shy, and severely discriminating in buying paper, although there are many unexceptionable signatures that necessarily have recourse to the outside market for favors. High minded business men will protect their paper at any reasonable sacrifice.

Governments are lower to-day, except the new issue of the 5-20s and the currency bonds, which are sustained by the activity in conversions. Gold is reacting sharply— adecline of 1⅝c from yesterday's quotation. But the most sensible decline is shown in the Railway list, with the exception of New York Central, which according to later telegrams received by S. S. Bryan, recovered from the forenoon prices and closed at 102. We print our usual list:

U. S. Bonds, 1881	110½
U. S. Bonds, 5-20's, 1862	109½
U. S. Bonds, 5-20's, 1864	107¾
U. S. Bonds (new issue) 5-20's, 1865	106¾
U. S. Bonds, 7-30's	106¼
Michigan Southern	73½
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	77¾
Pa. R. Wayne & Chicago	92¾
Erie	82¾
Chicago & Rock Island	92¾
Chicago & Northwestern	39¾
Chicago & Northwestern preferred	59¼
New York Central	102

MINING STOCKS.

Gregory	12¾
Rocky Mount	2¾
Quartz Hill	3¾
Hope	3¾
Corydon	1¾
Dunkan	15c.
Kay	67c.
Keith & Parmelee	3¾
Symonds Fork	1¾

—The following shows the totals of the average of the leading items of the Philadelphia Banks for the past and previous week:

	Last Week.	This Week.	
Capital	$15,017,150	$15,017,150	
Loans	32,304,721	31,979,173	Dec. $325,548
Specie	5,031,228	4,820,758	Dec. 14,470
Legal Tenders	17,827,598	18,150,667	Inc. 323,069
Due from Banks	8,062,578	8,045,246	Inc. 17,332
Due to Banks	7,140,929	7,181,170	Inc. 40,241
Deposits	28,666,011	29,367,388	Inc. 721,375
Circulation	15,564,451	15,601,060	Inc. 36,609

—The following shows the relative rates of exchange on the principal points:

New York	Par.
Boston	¼ dis.
Baltimore	¼ dis.
Cincinnati	¼ dis.
St. Louis	¼ dis.
Louisville	¼ dis.
Chicago	¼ dis.
Philadelphia	Par.

—There was an increased movement last week, though there was no very marked change in the items except in legal-tender notes and deposits—the former showing an increase of $313,069, and the latter of $721,375. The loans decreased $415,548. The specie decreased some fifteen thousand dollars, and the circulation increased about as much. The clearings amount to $50,571,488, against $28,108,902 the previous week, and the balances foot up $2,819,186, against $2,817,711 the previous week.

—The earnings of nineteen principal railroads for January compare thus with the same month of last year:

	1866.	1867.
Atlantic and Great Western	$404,962	$391,137
Chicago and Alton	210,171	240,238
Chicago and Great Eastern	68,784	68,784
Chicago and North western	523,568	580,842
Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific	291,520	297,521
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	168,799	131,179
Erie	1,185,748	906,730
Illinois Central	278,253	258,429
Michigan Western	23,067	20,030
Marietta and Cincinnati	94,139	94,139
Michigan Central	392,438	394,066
Michigan Southern	314,567	302,714
Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien	77,772	143,000
Milwaukee and St. Paul	127,177	146,800
Ohio and Mississippi	253,000	253,000
Pittsburgh, Ft. W. & Chicago	550,000	550,000
St. Louis, Alton & Terre Haute	178,119	148,688
Toledo, Wabash and Western	228,000	227,000
Worth Unionton	48,102	30,000
Total (19 roads)	$5,748,458	$5,714,284

—The new usury law passed by the Massachusetts Legislature reads thus:

SECTION 1. When there is no agreement for a different rate of interest of money, the same shall continue to be at the rate of six dollars by the hundred, at the same rate for a greater or less sum, and for a longer or shorter time.

SEC. 2. It shall be lawful to contract, to pay or reserve discount at any rate, and to enforce such agreement and receipt of any rate of interest; provided, however, that no greater interest than six per cent. per annum shall be recovered in any action except when the agreement to pay such greater rate of interest is in writing.

SEC. 3. Sections three, four and five of chapter fifty-three of the General Statutes, and all other parts of acts inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

SEC. 4. This act shall not affect any existing contract or action pending, or of which notice is given, and shall take effect on the 1st day of July next.

—The Boston *Advertiser* makes a fuller mention of the recent heavy failures: The great failure has of course been the most prominent topic of conversation in all financial circles, but as far as we learn few new facts have been developed. The amount of indebtedness to the banks is reported to be somewhat larger than was publicly known on Saturday, some accounts representing it as high as twelve hundred thousand dollars.

The question between the Merchants' Bank and the State Bank as to the responsibility of the latter for the checks certified by its cashier is warmly discussed and opinions are much divided, the most contradictory statements being made as to the practice of the respective banks in matters of this sort. So far as now appears we apprehend that the questions of fact are likely to be as closely contested as the questions of law, in case the matter is litigated, as is now generally expected.

With reference to some incorrect reports as to the loan of $600,000 made by the Merchants' Bank to Mollen, Ward & Co., we learn from the best authority that the gold certificates on which the loan was made came from New York through other banks in this city. The loan was made at the rate of 1⅝ in exchange for 100 in gold, was in the regular course of business and was sanctioned by the directors. The certificates were delivered on Thursday by the cashier of the Merchants' Bank at the request of Mr. Carter, of the firm of Mollen, Ward & Co., into the hands of the cashier of the State Bank, and the latter gave in payment checks upon the State Bank to the amount of $600,000 certified by him as good. The common impression that the gold certificates were procured from the Sub-Treasury in this city is without foundation, and it is probable that the only relation of the late cashier of the Sub-Treasury to the certificates in question was that they were handed to him to temporarily cover a defalcation previously made in some other form, and were not returned by him as the parties dealing with him had anticipated.

The affairs of the First National Bank of Newton are undergoing official examination by Mr. Ransom, the National Bank Examiner. As he is not yet ready to send his report to the Department at Washington, he makes no public statement of the condition of the bank at present. We are informed, however, that the examination thus far made does not indicate a result any more favorable than has been already foreshadowed, the entire capital of the bank being unquestionably lost. Mr. Ransom authorizes us to state that from his examination of the cashier, it appears that the transactions by which the bank was ruined occurred within twenty-four hours of their discovery, except one operation on Tuesday last, which, like the others was concealed from all the directors except Mr. Carter. It appears that the name of Mellon, Ward & Co. does not occur in the loan of the bank, and that no loans to them were sanctioned by the directors except on Government bonds or cash securities. The cashier admits that he was not authorized to make any loan of the securities or funds of the bank in Boston on his own responsibility.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 6, 1867. }

We have but little to remark to-day in regard to the general markets. The offerings were quite liberal, while and acting against trade to some extent. There is, however, a continual improvement in many branches of business, and every day our confidence is at last reported. Grain is generally dull. There is very little choice butter in market, but an overstock of inferior qualities, which are nominal in prices. Eggs are higher, and until after the season of Lent, very likely continue high. Provisions are active. The iron market is very dull; the manufactories are still closed, with no prospect of an early resumption of business. There is also a probability that some of the houses will close at an early day, which will add to the present depression and stagnation of business, caused by the non-working of the iron mills.

We condense from the prices current exchanges the following:

CINCINNATI.

The *Gazette*, of Tuesday, quotes as follows:

Butter—The receipts for the week have been in excess of the business, and fine yellow remains dull, is scarce and will bring 28@30c; white medium qualities of prime, 25@27c; and inferior, 22@24c. Lard is 16@18c ₱ lb; there is not much Western Reserve offered, and it is held at 22@23c.

Cheese—There has been a good demand all the week and stocks are getting low. Prices have advanced 2@3c ₱ lb, and factory Prime Cheddars are held and they are firm at the advance. We quote Western Reserve and Hamilton County factory at 18@19c; English Dairy at 18@19c; and Pine Apple at 21@22c ₱ lb, as to quality.

Coal—There is not much doing at the river, and prices are nominal at $6@7 for No. 1; $5@6 for No. 2; $4@5 for slack, and 50@60c for Ohio river.

Feed—There is a fair demand, and prices declined until they reached 140@45c per dozen for fresh in good order, but rallied, and closed firm with a good demand at 145@50c.

Grease—The demand is active and prices are firm. We quote brown 6@6½c; yellow 7@7½c, and white at 8@8½c per pound.

Hemp—There is a fair demand but the supply is better and prices have declined to $225@230 ₱ ton for undressed Kentucky. Prime Manilla dull, sells at $200@$200.

Oil—The market has not been as firm for linseed and prices have declined to $1 90@1 97 per gallon. Lard oil has been in good demand, and sold at $1 05@1 10 for No. 1, and 80@$1 00 for lower grades. Petroleum remains quiet at 40@45c for refined.

Seed—There was an easy market for clover until Friday, when prices rallied and closed firm, but with sales of 1,000 bushels on Monday, in lots, at $6 75 ₱ bushel. Timothy ruled steady, with a moderate demand, at $3 80. Flax is active and firm, at $2 95@3 00 for the latter grade for clean.

Tallow—The market rules firmer and prices are higher, closing at 10½@11c ₱ lb for country, and 12@13c for city rendered.

Whisky—The receipts have been light during the week, and holders have been able to obtain an advance of 1c ₱ gallon. On Monday 250 gallons raw in bond sold at 95c ₱ gallon. The demand at this price is not active.

PHILADELPHIA.

The *North American*, of Tuesday, says:

Groceries—Prices are well maintained; 281 hhds and 41 tierces of clayed Cuba Molasses sold at 46@47c ₱ gallon, and 400 bags of Rio Coffee at 15¾c ₱ lb in gold.

Flour—The market continues greatly depressed, there being no demand except from the trade for consumers, who purchase in small lots only. Sales of a few hundred barrels, including superfine at $8 50@$9 25; extras at $9 50@$10 25; extra family at $10 50@$12 50; Pennsylvania and Ohio do. do. at $11 50@13 50, and fancy brands at $14@$16 50, according to quality. Rye Flour is quiet, with small sales at $7@7 25. Nothing doing in Corn Meal.

Grain—The market is very poorly supplied with wheat, and prime lots attract considerable attention, but common sorts are neglected. Sales of 1,000 bushels good and good Pennsylvania red at $2 95@3; southern do at $2 80@3 10, and white at $3 10@3 35. Rye is selling at $1 30@1 31 for western and Pennsylvania. Corn is less active; sales of 5,000 bushels at 86c, in store, from the cars and afloat. Oats remain without change; sales of 2,500 bush. at 70@75c. A small lot of Barley Malt sold at $1 50.

Seeds—Inversed continues in good demand; 1,800 bushels sold at $7 50@7 75 for old, and $8@8 50 ₱ bush for fair to prime new. Timothy sells at $3 50@3 75, and Flaxseed at $2 25 ₱ bush.

The receipts of some of the leading articles of produce, since the 1st inst., were as follows: Flour 287 bbls, apples 1192 bbls, cheese 138 boxes, corn 2802 sacks, barley 1464 sacks, rye 1366 sacks, oats 1266 sacks, butter 104 packages, and bulk meats 3229 pieces.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale prices unless otherwise stated:

APPLES—Prices range from $2@$4 25 ₱ bbl, as to quality and condition. We note sales of 90 bbls inferior at $2@2 50; 40 bbls good at $2 25@2 50 and 25 bbls choice at $3 75@$4 ₱ bbl.

BEANS—Choice white beans are quoted at $2 50@2 75 ₱ bush, and Navy at $3.

BUTTER—There is but little choice butter in the market, but an overstock of inferior grades. Good roll is in demand at 28@30c ₱ lb, but low grades are quiet and unsalable at any price.

DRIED FRUITS—Apples are quoted at 9@10c ₱ lb, and peaches from 16 to 20c, as to quality.

EGGS—There has been an advance in prices. We quote fresh packed at 22@23c ₱ dozen.

FLOUR—The market continues active and firm. Stocks in store are light, and favorite brands are selling readily at quotations. We quote the following brands: Keeley's, Crossmill's and Bartlett's, $12 00; Falcon, $12 25; Jenkins's Lilly Mills, $12 75, and Snow Flake, $14 50@15 00. Ry flour is rather dull at $7 00 per bbl. Buckwheat flour is quoted at $3 75@4 00 per hundred.

GRAIN—We quote No. 1 Spring firm at $2 03, and Winter at $2 80@2 90 per bushel. Corn is quoted nominally at 60@70c per bushel. Oats from first hands command 70c, and from store 50c per bushel. Sales of 700 bushels from store at 56c. Rye is in demand at $1 35 per bushel. There is no barley in market. We quote it in demand at 90@$1 00 per bushel.

PROVISIONS—We quote the prices from first hands as follows: Sugar cured hams, 15@16c; shoulders, 12c; sides, 13½c; dried beef, 19½c; lard, 13c, and breakfast bacon, 16c per ₱.

LARD OIL—From first hands we quote No. 1 at $1 10 and No. 2 at 90c per gallon.

Groceries.

COFFEE—The market is firm at the following quotations: Choice Rio, 27½c; prime, 26c; good, 25@26c.

BROWN SUGARS—New Orleans, 10¾@15c; Porto Rico, 13@13½c; Cuba, 12@12½c; Hard, 16½c; A Coffee, 15c. This is said to be a concession to the anticipated prejudices of English and American visitors.

MOLASSES—Orleans, 90@95c; Porto Rico, 75@80c; English Island, 80c.

SYRUP—Extra Union, $1 20; Lovering's, $1 10; Boston & Relief, 95c; Franklin, 80c. Other syrups range from 75 to 80c, as to quality.

TEAS—Young Hyson, 90@$1 75; Imperial, $1 50@1 60; Gunpowder, $1 50@1 80; Oolong, 75@$1 20.

RICE—Carolina, 11@12c; Rangoon, 10½c.

SODA—Bi Carb, 10½c.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, March 7, 1867. }

Business since our last report has been with a supply in the yards sufficient to meet all immediate demands. There is but little coming to market. We quote card prices as follows:

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, ₱ M	$65 00
First Common	50 00
Second Common	40 00
Third Common	30 00
Mill Culls	20 00
Hemlock Joists and Scantling	21 00

PLANED LUMBER.

Flyst common, ₱ M	61 00
Clear	65 00
Siding, Boards	60 00
Partition Boards	55 00
Ceiling, Dressed Sides	55 00
Siding, one side	50 00
Ceiling, Dressed and Beaded	60 00
Eighteen weather boarding	45 00
Twelve inch vertical, with strips	45 00
Half inch patent unplaned	45 00
Twelve inch vertical, with strips	45 00
Lath, sawed	5 00

SHINGLES AND LATH.

No. 1, 18-inch, sawed	6 00
No. 1, 16-inch, shaved	5 00
Lath	5 00

MANILLA, HEMP, AND TARRED CORDAGE, OAKUM, &c.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, March 9, 1867. }

The market for goods, under this head, is firm. We quote the card prices as follows:

Manilla cordage	22
Manilla cordage, 6 and 9 thread	23
Hawser laid tarred cordage	20
American hackled hemp tarred cordage	22
American hemp rope	22
Manilla rope	28
Spun yarn	30
American hemp packing	30
Oakum, ₱ bale	7 00
Sail duck, assorted	40
Red cords, Manilla, ₱ dozen	$2 25, 4 00@4 00
No. 1, Flax Twine	38
No. 2, do	35
No. 3, do	33
No. 4, do	30
No. 5, do	28
No. 6, do	25
Wrapping twine	35
Colored broom-sewing twine	45 to 50
Wool packing	30 to 35
Broom-tying twine	40
Carpet chain	35
Carpet chain colored	40

LEATHER, HIDES AND OIL.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, March 9, 1867. }

We quote as follows the current prices:

LEATHER.

Oak sole, heavy	42@45c	Extra shaved b'r's	44c
Oak sole, middle and	40c	Black bridle ₱ doz	85@90
Rough oak, heavy	36@38c	Saddlers skirting	44@46
Rough oak, light	36@38c	Shoe skirting	42@44
Finished calf	$1 20@1 75	Red sole B. A	36@38
Finished kip	$1 20@1 50	Harness leather	32@34
Hand leather	42@50c	No. 1 pad skins	30
No. 1 oak harness	42c	doz	$7 50@8 50

SIDES.

Green salted heavy	13¾c	Green Calf	18@20c
Green salted, 50 lbs	12@14c	Tanners' oil	90c
Green hides	12@14c	Tallow No. 1	11@11½c
Green butchers	12c	Tallow No. 2	10c
Glover Sheep	40		

WROUGHT IRON WELDED TUBES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, March 9, 1867. }

The following is the Manufacturers' Price List:

Size of Inside Diameter.	Price Per Ft.	Price per foot Galvanized.
⅛ inch Gas Pipe	9	
¼ do	10	
⅜ do	13	18
½ do	17	23
¾ do	23	31
1 do	30	41
1¼ do	33	46
1½ do	41	57
2 do	62	75
2½ do	1 07	1 30
3 do	1 62	1 90
3½ do	2 00	
4 do	2 60	
5 do	3 44	

TIN, ROOFING, &c.

OFFICE PITTSBURGH DAILY COMMERCIAL } SATURDAY, March 9, 1867. }

The following are the correct quotations:

I C 10x14	$14 75
I X 10x14	17 75
I X 10x20	21 00
I C 12x12	15 25
I C 12x17	18 75
I C 14x20	25 00
I X 14x20	29 00
I C roofing, 14x20	17 75
I X roofing, 14x20	21 75
Bar Tin, ₱ lb	37c
Grain Tin, ₱ lb	35c
Sheet Zinc	15c
Sinb Spelter	13c

CRACKER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, March 9, 1867. }

The following are the card prices:

Boston Crackers	11½	Cream Crackers	20
Wine	12c	Graham Wafers	12½
Butter	11½	Ginger Snaps	12
Oyster	11	Ginger Snaps	16
Pilot	11½	Pilot Bread	10
Butter	11½	Cracker Meal	10½
Soda	11½	Sugar Crackers	11
Graham	11	Fancy Crackers	20
Dyspepsia	11	Assorted Tea Cakes	16

BROOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, March 9, 1867. }

The demand is good. We quote as follows:

Shaker No. 1

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1867.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

THE SOUTH UNDER THE NEW REGIME.

The reconstruction law, just passed by Congress, may be considered the culmination of all the long series of deliberations, propositions, and policies on the subject for a year and a half past. In bringing the affair to this point, those who have assumed to speak and act for the people of the Southern States have had about as much agency and influence as the loyal people or their representatives in Congress. Their evasions, perversions and abuses of measures suggested by the clemency and forbearance of the Government demonstrated the necessity of more stringent methods of restoration. The violence, cruelty and injustice towards Union people within their reach, showed more protection for those to be indispensable. The menacing and insolent language used toward the loyal people of the North and the Government afforded corroborative evidence, if any were needed, of the bad treatment that loyal people, among them, received at their hands. All this tended inevitably to tighten the conditions of settlement, and we hope the enactment of the law by Congress and its approval by the loyal people will convince the most skeptical, that there is no use in attempting to trifle with, to cheat or to frighten the Union people from their purpose, cherished for six long and terrible years, to have the Union restored on the right basis.

And we think we have seen some indications of a cheerful acquiescence in this measure by the people of the Southern States. It has met with favor, in anticipation of its adoption, in several of the States—certainly in Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina. And we can readily see numerous reasons why it should be approved by the *people* of those States. The principal advantage to the general population—we mean the white population—will be, that it will free them from the domination of an aristocratic political "ring" who are, from inveterate habit, attached to a system of principles and measures that do not contemplate the political advantage of the great body of the people—we mean of the white people. All their political ideas and practices are permeated by slavery. Southern politics, in the general Government, have been invariably lubricated by this interest, while the interest of the non-slaveholding people of the South, who were the great majority, were constantly neglected. These old hacks of the slavery *regime* will be excused from further service by the new adjustment, and all the great mass of white people South should be grateful for the deliverance. A further advantage to the Southern States generally will be, that a new, fresh, honest race of public men will spring up. In Congress, for example, they will not have to keep their representatives for a life time, mainly to keep watch and guard over the slavery interest. They will have a succession of new men. And there is a third advantage, which no doubt the people will be prompt to notice, that under the new arrangement, when carried fully into effect, the Southern States will have after the next census, about thirteen more representatives in Congress than they have had under the slave system.

But these advantages are not all that might be named to reconcile the Southern masses to the new order of things. The general tone of State legislation will be raised, having the peculiar institution no longer to engross and hamper it. Education, agricultural interests, manufactures, will engage increased attention in Legislatures and among the people. Every function of politics will be more free in its operation, released from the slavery clog. And it will be no small benefit thus to have facility for acquiring uniqueness and homogeneity with the rest of the population of the country, by the removal of that which has been not only their peculiar institution, but which impressed its dark peculiarity on their principles, customs and tempers. The bitter outcry against the Reconstruction Law comes, we believe, mainly from those effete party lordlings who led the Southern rebellion, and who now see themselves crushed in the ruins that they produced. Among the body of the people, prejudice and old habits may suggest objections to some things in the law, but on the whole they will find it to work advantageously to them, in the long run, as well as to the whole country.

DESERTION OF THE FREE RAILROAD BILL.

The desertion of the Free Railroad Bill—the great people's measure—by Senators SEARIGHT of Westmoreland, and STUTZMAN of Somerset, has created surprise and indignation, especially among their immediate constituents. Had they remained faithful, the bill would have been deprived of some if not all the fatally objectionable features which, through Senator LANDON, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company incorporated into it. What motive they had—what influence swayed them—what could have induced these gentlemen to forsake the people to serve the Pennsylvania Railroad Company—we will not attempt to decide. That they *have* deserted the people, even they will not deny; for last fall, not only among their immediate constituents but throughout the State, there was but one voice, and that in favor of a law to facilitate the construction of railroads. Since that time there has been no change in public sentiment. But the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, with its great and peculiar influence, has entered the field to oppose such a law. Instead of taking ground squarely against a General Railroad Law, they resorted to the kind of influence and manipulation that enabled them to change the bill of Senator BIGHAM, which was an *enabling* act in fact, so as to make it a *disabling* act, By the passage of such a bill would the object of the Monopoly be obtained quite as completely as it could be in any other way. Indeed, it was only through a backhanded stroke that the Free Railroad principle could be defeated. By adopting this mode of tactics, Senators like Messrs. SEARIGHT and STUTZMAN were afforded the opportunity they desired to kill the free principle even more effectually they could have done it by squarely opposing it. These gentlemen and others with them, no doubt, will pretend they favored a General Railroad Law, when they know well enough that the bill, as it now stands amended by the Monopoly, is opposed by every sincere friend of an honest enabling act. The pretence is a shallow one, and will by no means avail to shield them from the condemnation which awaits faithless representatives.

If these Senators are really for a genuine enabling act, there is yet time for them to show it. Let them go with the friends of such an act, and not with its enemies. Better have no law until one can be obtained that will be satisfactory to the friends of the free principle and in accordance with the universally expressed desire of the people, outside of the circle where the Pennsylvania Company is supreme.

We presume the original friends of Senator BIGHAM'S bill, now that the power of the Monopoly, working through Senator LANDON, has effectually reversed its character, will vote against it; and all sincere friends of a General Railroad Law will have an opportunity to show themselves when the vote is taken. The record will face them so long as types can make it legible.

THE only decided mark, or vestige rather, of barbarism in our country is one which is exotic and not "to the manor born." The attitude of menace and alarm kept up along our Canada frontier is only befitting a dark age, or some other land and race than ours. It does not belong to our civilization nor to any system of international courtesy recognized by the American people. It is a blot on our fair fame, and has not the poor pretense, in its behalf, of furnishing any advantage to anybody. If it is meant as a retaliation for the unfriendly deportment of Canadians toward us during the rebellion, it is an officious and imprudent assumption for an irresponsible clique or set of men to take in hand the quarrel of the nation or of the whole people. If we have no humane feeling for the families of women and children along the border who are kept in constant terror, yet as a blot on our civilization and national fame, this disgrace should be brought to an end.

"NOTHING TO DO WITH POLITICS."

Many of our citizens, professing to be disgusted with the chicanery, meanness and fraud which they see in party management and measures, withdraw from all attention to the peculiar office of citizenship. And it is, in many cases, those men who pass for our best citizens, that say they have nothing to do with politics. They may be the best men, but we are not able to see what sustains their claim to be the best *citizens*, when the duty of the citizen is formally repudiated by them.

We do not deny that political affairs as managed, and political meetings as attended, are far from being attractive either to moral principle or refined taste. But we may ask, what has rendered them repulsive to so many of our citizens? What but the withdrawal of one after another of those who might be disposed and able to make the conduct of political affairs worthy of the importance of the subject. If political affairs be left to the control and management of pot-house politicians, they will be managed in a pot-house way. If the candidates for office secure the monopoly of the control, they will be conducted to suit their interests, and we shall have our public affairs disgraced by the greed of power and the still baser greed of money.

The class of citizens who are most ready to retire in disgust from politics, is the very class who have most of substantial interest in the subject. Their retirement is the very thing that most delights the officious demagogues who remain to manage public affairs in their own way and for their own gain. New York city affords an illustration. Influential, wealthy, old citizens have gradually withdrawn from municipal politics. In-comers, from all the ends of the earth, who never voted anywhere till they voted there, have taken politics into their management. The consequence is, that the non-tax paying part of the population have made the expenses of the city enormous, almost beyond belief, and the entire class of those who have nothing to do with politics may be reckoned among those who have the bills to foot.

It is, in fact, an approved piece of strategy among the lower ranks of mere politicians, to make primary political meetings so rough and offensive as to repel the better, more intelligent and decent sort of people. What could they wish for more than success? And certainly they have achieved success in every case where they have made a good citizen say, he has nothing to do with politics. Every man is bound to have some hand in keeping the public affairs of the country in a right condition. And to do his duty in this respect, he must direct his efforts wisely, not merely by voting, but by securing the right sort of candidates for office. And the duty extends to all grades of government. There are thousands who do not care a pin how the nation is governed, if they can control the municipality where they live, as in New York city. And there are others who expend their politics on great national questions, and let municipal and local affairs go into hands totally unfit, either by qualification or fidelity, to manage them. The damaging consequences are quickly seen, and they rapidly increase. State legislatures show these consequences, at the present time, as well as city governments.

THE MILL WORKERS AND MILL OWNERS.

We understand that at a late meeting the rolling mill men agreed to continue to stand out against the proprietors. The mill owners offer seven dollars per ton for puddling, or sixteen and two-thirds per cent. more than is paid for the same kind of labor in the East. This would barely enable them to do business without loss—the mechanics would receive the profits—and the mills would be run virually for their benefit. That this offer is fair—liberal, in fact—must be admitted by reasonable men; and the refusal by the mechanics to accept these terms will not only prolong a state of things in which they will be the chief sufferers, but operate injuriously on business generally in Pittsburgh. It cannot be expected mill owners will resume business at a loss—and we think mechanics, if they reflect for a moment, will perceive they are attempting to force unnatural results. How can Pittsburgh manufacturers sell their products in competition with Eastern manufacturers, if on the item of labor alone it costs from seven to eight dollars more to manufacture a ton of iron here than it does on the Lehighand Schuylkill? They do not ask our mechanics to go to work at Eastern prices. They offer them more—wages in excess of what is paid elsewhere—which they can do only by giving up the expectation of profits. But the puddlers are not satisfied with the offer of sixteen and two-thirds per cent. more than is paid for similar work in the East—they demand fifty per cent. or nine dollars per ton. Were the mills to resume at that rate, where would the purchasers of iron, at a corresponding rate, come from; and how long does a reasonable person suppose it would be before common ruin would overtake employer and employed?

The workmen make a mistake when they refuse a fair offer. We do not hesitate to say they should not delay to go to work at seven dollars—and we think they will find it difficult to give a reason for not doing so, and still more difficult to command public opinion in their favor.

A CONTRAST.

The Philadelphia *Press* quotes from Mr. PARTON'S article in the *Atlantic Monthly* for March, on Chicago, for the purpose of contrasting Philadelphia with that city. It holds up the achievements of the former—its triumphs in grasping elements, which if properly turned to account are sure to make a community strong in numbers and wealth—its energy in devising and prosecuting improvements, which though expensive are a permanent and necessary part of the development essential to great results—and it points to the boldness and intelligence with which Chicago has placed the Empire of the West under tribute to her,—all this our Philadelphia contemporary holds up for imitation by Philadelphia. But it remarks at the outset:

"We do not expect Philadelphia, even with her nearly 800,000 people, to achieve the same triumphs, because our education and habits are entirely different, but we boldly assert that Philadelphia may copy many things from Chicago with incalculable benefit to herself. The obstacles surmounted by the prominent men of that city, and especially the leaders of commerce and manufactures, would cover us with despair if we had any such impediments to remove."

Nevertheless, the *Press* thinks Philadelphia is capable of far more than she has yet done; and it might have quoted largely from Mr. PARTON'S article to show that the growth of Chicago—in fact the marvellous growth of the Western States, has been due to the construction of Railroads—the result of an enlightened public sentiment and liberal legislation in furtherance of improvements of every description.

Mr. PARTON shows that in a large degree to the numerous Railroads—ramifying in every direction—developing every region and part—is due the existence of the marvel he describes. No part of the West has been bound by the shackles of a selfish Monopoly. No single Road has existed to prevent the construction of others, control Legislatures and keep down competition. Quite another policy has prevailed there—hence the marvel held up to the admiration and for the imitation of the people of Pennsylvania.

The people of Pennsylvania will have to begin at the bottom, if they would see railroads constructed and the State developed. They must make this the paramount object—the single issue. The Pennsylvania Railway Company has undertaken to say no more Railroads shall be built, unless it suits its policy to permit them. No legislation can be obtained without its consent—and to all intents and purposes, so far as improvements are concerned, it holds the State in its hands. Do the people of an undeveloped region, abounding in mineral riches, wish to construct a Railroad—the necessary preliminary? They must first obtain the consent of the Pennsylvania Company. Do they humbly petition the Legislature? They will do it in vain if the Monopoly object. Do they ask for a Free Railroad Law—such as other States have? Do they want an enabling act, whereby they may build roads with their own money, over their own lands? The finger of the Monopoly raised at the door of the Legislature will prove fatal to their wishes.

What will it avail, therefore, to hold up for imitation the achievements of others, bound as our State is, and incapable of a noble effort? The *Press* would do Philadelphia and the State a far greater service by contributing what it might to emancipate the State from the thraldom of the Monopoly.

SHALL THE PROMISE BE REDEEMED?

In a report of the State Senate proceedings, when the motion was to strike out of the General Railroad Law the individual liability clause, the following occurs:

"Speaker HALL denounced this section as unjust, unusual, and which he could not support under any circumstances. He also proclaimed himself an advocate of a free railroad law in its most liberal sense."

We have to thank Speaker HALL for these words, and hope we shall have no reason for qualifying the remark. But he has done but a part of his duty—a small part—for the fight has but just begun. We shall expect, therefore, to see him laboring earnestly to defeat the bill—if not in the Legislature, certainly in the Executive Chamber. More than once last fall did Senator HALL and General GEARY, when on the stump, assure the people that they would give them "a free railroad law in its most liberal sense." We have the Senator now declaring that the bill as reported, should it pass, would not be such a law—but quite the reverse. No doubt Governor GEARY will readily coincide in that opinion; and the people will expect to find him acting as independently and faithfully to his duty and word as Senator HALL, who has but one vote. The Governor has a veto also, but whichever way it is cast it will be decisive. Having together stumped the State to make the promise of "a free railroad law in its most liberal sense," the question is—or soon will be—will they part company when the moment for redeeming it arrives? The Senator has chosen his course; to doubt what will be the decision of Governor GEARY, would be to accuse him in advance of unfaithfulness to his pledge—of which no man believes he is capable.

THE NORTHERN DEMOCRATS BITTERLY REPROACHED BY THE SOUTH.

The Richmond *Enquirer* tells the New York *World* plainly that the secret motive for the advice to the South to accept the terms that offered, are well understood. "Though whatever abusements and renunciations" says the desponding Richmond paper sarcastically, "of rights and liberties—we must win the inestimable felicity of gaining a voice and vote in the next Presidential election, for the chance that our vote, if given to order, would put the *World* and its associates in office." And a little further on the *Enquirer* says emphatically:

"Until the Northern Democrats show more strength, and more nerve, the Southern vote, if given in bulk, would avail them but little; and if so given would probably draw down upon the freed proscriptions from the successful party, with fresh condolence from the *World*, and fresh counsel to make the best of our case by making some new venture for the Democrats. We doubt that the *World* believes that its abandonment of the constitutional questions involved in the impending legislation, and its leaving the South to make her defences on the Constitution, unaided, and with careful admonitions that it is her case exclusively, are to our conceptions treachery to us, and treacherous to principle; and can but be considered as a kind of abandonment of principle, and as counsel to take care of ourselves the best we may, regardless of past associations or commitments. This is the logic of the letter of Mr. Bigler, &c.

"That is the feeling at the South seems but little understood by any of the parties at the North. Our people never forget and will never abandon a faithful friend, but they have no faith in the shifting of the time-serving and unstable, and not so implacable towards former opponents, as seems to be assumed or supposed. No people are more easily won by acts of manifest justice. We could give some examples. If intelligent Southerners were asked this day, who in their judgment, of all the Northern public men, did most to bring upon them their present troubles and their present wrongs which we believe we suffer, the answer would be, William H. Seward. If they were asked what Southern politician had done most to alienate their sympathies from himself, the answer would be Andrew Johnson. If they were further questioned they would declare, that since the close of the war, they had looked to Messrs. Johnson and Seward far more for a manifestation of the *spirit* of amity than for deeds of amity and of justice; that they have derided in many right and impudent many practical acts falling to the South. Let us, therefore, to as much of generosity and justice as they have shown us—let the manner in which we have forgotten our prejudices, and met them in a catholic and patriotic spirit—justify to the true character of the Southern temper, and indicate how similar overtures from others would be received. With all our just resentments and feelings against seven-tenths of Sumner and Wade, they have not excited our sense of wrong more than Johnson and Seward had done before them. From these things the *World* may ask our interlocutors in the anti-political circle would by no means insure our votes to men who fly us when in trouble, over those who, however they have wronged us in the past, might hereafter act in more just and generous and conciliatory spirit. And further, that if advised and driven to renounce every constitutional right, and to appeal to Radical mercy alone for terms, we might consider such advice, under such a necessity, as touching us also to purchase a mitigation of the conditions by pledges of future support. And when Southern men make pledges or justify expectations, it is always with a purpose to make them good."

THE House of Representative found no difficulty in overriding the President's veto—which came in according to promise—on the Reconstruction Bill. Thus, at last—and in spite of the President, too—we have a permanent policy of Reconstruction; one which not only will the great body of the people of the North approve, but one the people of the South, even in advance, have manifested a gratifying disposition to accept. At the close of this protracted struggle, the President finds himself almost alone. No longer are either the Democratic party of the North or the leaders in the South united in supporting him. On the contrary, influential delegations on the part of both urged him to sign the bill. The Thirty-Ninth Congress has the proud satisfaction, after trials paralleling the military struggle of the rebellion, of having framed and carried through a plan of Reconstruction that secures everything valuable for which it so long and steadfastly contended, and which even now foreshadows, at a no distant day, a restored and harmonious Union.

IT is now reported, by a letter which we find in a Baltimore paper, that our American Church or Chapel has not been expelled from the city of Rome. Two Scotch Presbyterian congregations held in private houses have been declared irregular and suppressed by the authorities. This gave rise to the report, which was current both in Florence and Rome, that the American Chapel had been suppressed. To secure it from this treatment, which was apprehended, the American Minister thought it expedient to place the United States arms on the building. The writer of the above letter says our religious services are tolerated under protection of the Ambassador, but that the holding of them is contrary to the law of the Pope's dominions. He deprecates the withdrawal of the Embassy, since then the worship, now resorted to by large numbers, would be suppressed by the authorities.

THE Fortieth Congress, under the new law, meets to-day. There may have been something in the fact of this early meeting that contributed to the fate of the Tariff and other measures. It is intimated that the new Congress will resume the work on the question of Protection where it was left off by the old. Whether it is done immediately or remotely, it is sincerely to be hoped that the supporters of Protection will not venture upon ground where they cannot agree. It is evident that the Tariff bill failed, not from what the opponents of protection were able to do, but from unwise management on the part of its friends, whereby a minority of less than one-third of the Senate and about two-fifths of the House were able to decide its fate.

CAPTAIN PROFESSOR PIRATE ALABAMA SEMMES has turned up in a new spot, as editor of a paper in Memphis. The journal which has the honor of his name at its head is to be devoted to the humane purpose of restoring the dead to life, its first efforts being directed to the resuscitation of the Democratic party, and its reinstatement in the control of the Government. The Captain professes to be a strong friend of the Union, provided it be under Democratic administration. Not finding it in this condition on his return from his buccaneering pursuits on the sea, he has concluded, after trying his hand at various other employments, to devote to the interests of the Democratic party that energy and unscrupulousness which he had for years consecrated to the work of burning unarmed merchant vessels on the high seas. It is likely, however, to be some time before the Captain will get the old Union in a condition "just suited to his mind."

THE almost successful attempt of the Fenian movement against Chester Castle some time since, shows the danger, to a community, of having in it secret, armed, military organizations. The existence of such a force, not responsible to nor controled by public law, is always a danger. It is often, also, a direct insult to recognised government. Under no surveillance of lawful authority, its extent, movements and designs cannot be known. All the conditions afford strong presumption that they are unlawful, and, therefore, by a well-known principle of law and government demand that they should be prohibited and suppressed. Such organizations are said to be in existence in this country. They are not needed *for* the country, which has shown itself quite competent to do its own military work openly and by law. And in *opposition* to its interests, honor or peace, they should not be tolerated a day.

THE Commissioners to superintend the erection, and fitting and furnishing of the new City Buildings, to be erected in Pittsburgh, are as follows: JAMES MCAULEY, THOMAS STIBEL, WM. PHILLIPS, JARED M. BRUSH, JOHN H. HARE, WM. M. LYON and WM. HOLMES. The Commissioners are empowered to levy and assess a tax not exceeding ten mills on the dollar on all property liable to State tax, the tax to be known as the "City Building Tax." The cost of ground, buildings and furniture is not to exceed three hundred thousand dollars. The bill creating this Board for the erection of a City Hall has passed both Houses of the Legislature, and now awaits the Governor's signature to become a law.

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The Ministers' Association of California have declared war against the cultivation of vineyards. Their strong argument is that the cultivation of grapes will have a tendency to increase drunkenness in the State.

The Connecticut Campaign.

The political campaign in Connecticut opened at Hartford on the evening of the 28th. Gen. Logan making the principal speech. He took strong, advanced ground, and said if he could have his way he would hang Jefferson Davis and follow up by hanging thirty or forty other rebels. Robert E. Lee included. He was in favor of recognizing only loyal men in the South, the blacks as well as the whites. These sentiments were loudly applauded. General Garfield, Carl Shurz, George W. Curtis and others will visit the State and take part in the canvass. The canvass will be a warm one, but our friends feel quite confident.

The Way the Wind Blows.

That infallible indicator of the drift of public opinion in England—the weathercock *Times*—has at last come squarely out in favor of Radical Reform. As in 1830 and 1831, that unquestionably influential journal has recently passed through its various phases of bitter opposition, mild deprecation, cold approval and luke-warm advocacy of the Reform question, before taking its present decided stand. It would not now be so outspoken and uncompromising as it is did it not feel that the movement was irresistible and overwhelming. No more gratifying assurance of the ultimate triumph of the people, in their ever-renewed struggle for political liberty, could be given.

A Plea for Amusement.

The Rev. Washington Gladden, in the *Independent*, makes an earnest plea for amusement, from the stand-point that "the play impulse" and the "need of recreation" are "implanted in the human nature by God himself." Says this writer:

"We must not prohibit amusements; we must not regard them with indifference; we must not permit the directing direction of religion; we must bring them under the control of christian influences, that they may be sanctified. If we cast religion out of our amusements, we must also have amusements without religion, says one excellent writer on this subject; 'and it is difficult to say which will be the evil of that unnatural divorcement are most deeply felt.'"

WILLIS ON WEBSTER.—The biographical—or, more correctly speaking, memorial—papers on the late N. P. Willis, which are being published in the *Home Journal*, are interesting from the Boswellian minuteness and unscrupulous personality of detail in which the writer indulges. Private letters that were evidently intended only for the eye of the intimate friend to whom they were written, he publishes without hesitation, and thus many characteristics and idiosyncracies of Mr. Willis are brought to light which would otherwise have never remained unrevealed. Some of these letters are highly piquant in matter, while their manner is unique and inimitable, and the public at least have no fault to find with Mr. Lewis Phillips—this new Boswell—for the chance to read them that he offers. From one to General George P. Morris, dated at the time of Daniel Webster's death, and now given for the first time in the last number of the *Home Journal*, we make the following graphic extract:

"Webster is dead—news that both Satan and Gabriel will be glad to hear. Ah, Morris, Morris! it is His big eyes have now been thirty-six hours looking everywhere. What a change in our death! Is it such a spirit, I remember being struck with his wonderful look of inferiority at Lafitte's dinner, in contrast with England's look of gentleness and nobleness around him—and I thought then that he seemed a sun-child among us little little men. As to the rest, he was not a Christian, rather, on the whole, take our small character—but we shall hear of him by and by in the telegraph or newspaper beyond the mahogany and silver nails. He will have clay dishonored, but blessed, in respectable obscurity."

This is a rare mingling of sincere eulogy on what was great in Webster, with almost reckless flippancy in regard to the future consequences of the terrible moral weakness that shadowed his whole life.

MADAME, THE DOCTOR.—Mrs. Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell delivered a lecture in New York the other night on the medical education of women, which is said to have been marked by an unusual amount of able illustration and cogent reasoning. She stated that in England, France and Germany women have been admitted to practice, while, in the two former, women's medical schools or colleges have been opened, and she claimed it as a duty incumbent on the United States not to be less progressive than the slow-moving countries of Europe. Her arguments in favor of female medical treatment of the many and complicated maladies that female flesh is heir to, were unanswerable.

THE EFFECT OF DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE ON PUBLIC HEALTH.—A significant and highly important fact is stated in connection with systematic sewerage and drainage in the town of Leek, Staffordshire, England, which was formerly badly drained and unhealthy. By accurately kept tables it appears that in the period of 45 years after good sewerage and drainage were adopted, eight and half years were added to the life of the members of an organization known as the Burial Society, which includes in its membership a third of the entire population. Besides this, there was effected a sensible reduction in the loss of time from work, and the amounts expended for sickness. The mortality of the whole town has fallen from thirty-one to twenty-three and a half to the thousand.

REMOVAL OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.—The Boston *Traveller*, referring to the proposition again made, to remove the capital to the West somewhere, remarks, although it is not quite so far as Washington City, it is not by any means sunlight that the national capital ought to be placed somewhere else than at the point best calculated to promote the purpose of Southern rebels, men who came so near succeeding in their first essay at disunion that they will make another effort at the earliest practicable moment, that is to say, as soon as the democratic party shall have been first "restored" at one national election, and then defeated at another.

SISTERS OF CHARITY.—The headquarters of the Sisters of Charity for the United States, are at Emmittsburg, Md. The present number of the Sisterhood is 951, being a nett increase of 30 during the past year. They have founded four new establishments during the same period, and they now have under their charge twenty-two hospitals, thirty-two hospital asylums, forty-nine parochial schools, four houses of charity, and one academy, making a total of 108 establishments. These institutions extend from Boston to San Francisco throughout most of the States of the American Union.

THE DELANO DISTRICT.—The testimony in the contested Congressional election case between Hon. C. Delano and Gen. Morgan, in the Thirteenth Ohio District, is now being taken at the Probate Judge's office in Mount Vernon. It is managed, on behalf of Mr. Delano, by Hon. W. Sapp and Walter H. Smith, Esq.; on behalf of Gen. Morgan, by C. H. Scribner and the General himself. The friends of Mr. Delano are sanguine of success.

NOTWITHSTANDING New York is a bad place in some respects, it occasionally acts in accordance with the highest virtue. For instance: The Southern Relief Commission has already collected a large amount of money to be applied to the relief of the South, and has shipped upwards of 20,000 bushels of corn to Savannah and Charleston, which will be promptly forwarded by the State authorities to the famine stricken localities for distribution.

THE Richmond *Whig* of Friday has an earnest article in favor of the immediate acceptance of the terms of the reconstruction bill. It says there is but one course to pursue, and that it will be unwise to hesitate. "The sooner we eat our peck of dirt," it remarks philosophically, "the sooner we shall feel refreshed"—which is indeed refreshing to hear.

AS to the entire correctness of the purport of the following, there will probably be a difference of opinion; but concerning the duty of christians, none:

"Up to this time the devil and his angels have had a monopoly of the business of furnishing amusement to our homeless youth. It cannot be denied that they have done their work thoroughly. Are Christian people content to leave the field in their possession? Is it not time that something should be done to counteract their bad influences?"

MARYLAND U. S. SENATOR.—Now that Governor Swann has declined, the canvass for United States Senator in Maryland has been opened anew. Hon. Isaac D. Jones, Judge Carmichael and ex-Governor P. F. Thomas are all mentioned, and there is scarcely a doubt that one of the three will be the honored individual.

THE MARYLAND SWANN.—The Radicals of Maryland are jolly over the "dead beat" which has overtaken Governor Swann. Says the Baltimore *American*: "They have driven Mr. Swann out of the Senate, and they have driven him into the Democratic party. Two things to be greatly thankful for. The real cause for his withdrawal from Senatorial honors will yet be explained, and explode all his pompous pretences to atoms."

THE SUPREME JUDGESHIP.—The Berks County *Journal* says: "Hon. M. Russel Thayer, present Representative of the Fifth Pennsylvania Congressional district, is favorably named and will be heartily supported before the next Republican State Convention as a candidate for Sup